

REMARKS

In paragraph 2 of the Action, claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. In paragraphs 4-6 of the Action, claim 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by De Harak, Cohen, or Adkins.

In view of the rejections, claims 1-10 have been cancelled, and new claims 11-18 have been filed. Claims 11-16 are readable on the elected species.

As clearly recited in new claim 11, a shock absorber comprises a frame body, a bag for holding a package therein, and a holding member. The frame body includes a first body partly surrounding a center opening without surrounding a side opening portion, and a first cover body having a first end pivotally attached to the first body to close the side opening portion and a second end. The frame body is inflated by gas filled therein. Namely, the frame body is a gas filled frame body.

The bag for holding the package therein is attached to the first body to be located in the center opening portion. The holding member holds the second end of the first cover body to the first body to close the side opening portion so that the package in the bag is entirely surrounded by the first body and first cover body.

In the invention, since the package is located in the bag and is surrounded entirely by the frame body, the package can be protected securely by shock applied thereto.

De Harak is directed to an inflatable art frame and includes a shell having an outer inflatable compartment 12 and an inner compartment 14. The outer inflatable compartment 12 is a one piece structure, and a picture can be retained in the inner compartment 14.

In this respect, it is held at column 2, lines 21-25 that "To facilitate mounting an object in the framing system, an elongated

slot 24 is provided across the inner compartment 14 as shown in fig. 1. A picture or the like may be readily inserted through slot 24 into picture receiving compartment 14."

In the invention, the frame body includes the first body partly surrounding the center opening, and the first cover body pivotally attached to the first body to close the side opening portion. In De Harak, the outer inflatable compartment 12 completely surrounds the inner compartment 14. There is no member corresponding to the first cover body of the invention.

In the invention, also, the holding member holds the second end of the first cover body to the first body to close the side opening portion so that the package in the bag is entirely surrounded by the first body and first cover body. There is no member corresponding to the holding member.

Accordingly, claim 1 is not anticipated by De Harak.

In Cohen, each of shells 1, 2 has a diaphragm 4 at one side. The shells 1, 2 are assembled with an article between the diaphragms 4, so that the article can be retained between the shells 1, 2.

In the invention, the frame body includes the first body partly surrounding the center opening, and the first cover body pivotally attached to the first body to close the side opening portion. Also, the frame body is inflated by gas. Cohen has the shells 1, 2, but the shells 1, 2 are not inflatable and different from the frame body of the invention. Claim 1 is not anticipated by Cohen.

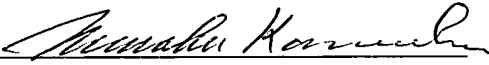
In Adkins, a package 10 includes frame members 12, 14 which can be opened and closed. The frame members 12, 14 include films 38, 40 therein. In use, an object 52 is placed on one of the films 38, 40; the frame members 12, 14 are closed; and air is supplied to chambers 46, 48 of the frame members 12, 14 to hold the object between the films 38, 40.

In the invention, the frame body includes the first body partly surrounding the center opening, and the first cover body pivotally attached to the first body to close the side opening portion. In Adkins, the frame members 12, 14 completely cover the object, so that Adkins does not have the first body and the first cover body now clearly defined in claim 11 of the invention. Claim 11 is not anticipated by Adkins.

As explained above, claim 11 is not anticipated by the references cited in the Action. Claim 11 and its dependent claims are patentable over the cited references.

Reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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